# NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

## AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

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N. E. FARMER.

From Fessenden's Complete Farmer.

### COWS FOR THE DAIRY.

In selecting cows for the dairy, the following indications should be attended to:—Wide horns, a thin head and neck, dew-lap large, full breast, broad back, large deep belly; the udder capacious but not too fleshy; the milch veins prominent, and the bag tending far behind; teats long and large; buttocks broad and fleshy; tail long, pliable, and small in proportion to the size of the carcass, and the joints short. The Alderney breed gives a very rich milk. The Durham short horns, however, exceed them as respects quantity; and we have the testimony of the Hon. Levi Lincoln, late governor of Massachusetts, that the milk of Denton's progeny, a branch of that race, is not only abundant, but of excellent quality.

Cows should be milked regularly morning and evening, and as nearly as may be at the same hours. At six in the morning and six at night, is a good general rule, as the times of milking will be equi-distant from each other. But if they are milked three times a day, as Dr. Anderson recommended, the times may be five, one and eight. He asserted that if cows were full fed, they will give half as much again if milked three times as if only twice. At the same time, it would prevent too great a distension of their bags, to which the best cows are liable.

The cow which is desired to remain in perfection, either for milking or breeding, should not be exhausted by drawing her milk too long after she becomes heavy with calf. It is paying too dear for a present supply of milk. She should be suffered to go dry at least two months before calving.

The expense of keeping cows of a poor breed is as great and sometimes greater than that of keeping the best. If cows are poorly kept, the difference of breeds will scarcely be discernible by the product of their milk. Some have therefore supposed that it is the food alone which makes the odds in the quantity and quality of the milk. This supposition is very erroneous, as may be shown by feeding two cows of similar age, size, &c. on the same food, the one of a good breed for milk, and the other of a different kind, and observing the difference in the milk product. No farmer, unless he is very rich, can afford to keep poor milch cows. He might almost as well keep a breed of naked sheep, such as Swift mentions in Gulliver's Travels. The farmer who raises a heifer calf that is from a poor milker, or of a breed of little value, is as foolish as he would be, if, in clearing land, he should burn on the ground the birch, maple, and walnut, and save white pine and hemlock for fire-wood. And yet many sell the calves of the best milch cows to the butchers, because such calves are fattest!

Those cows which give the greatest quantity of thin milk are most profitable for sucking calves, for rich milk is said not to be so proper food for calves as milk which is less valuable for dairy purposes. Milk which contains a large proportion of cream, is apt to clog the stomachs of calves; obstruction puts a stop to their thriving, and sometimes proves fatal. For this reason it is best that calves should be fed with the milk which first comes from the cow, which is not so rich as that which is last drawn.

Mr Russel Woodward, in the "Memoirs of the New York Board of Agriculture," says, "I have found that young cows, the first year that they give milk, may be made, with careful milking and good keeping, to give milk almost any length of time required. But if they are left to dry up early in the fall, they will be sure to dry up of their milk each succeeding year, if they have a calf near the same season of the year; and nothing but extraordinary keeping will prevent it, and that but for a short time. I have had them dried up of their milk in August, and could not by any means make them give milk much beyond that time in any succeeding years."

A writer in the "Bath and West of England's Society's Papers," states, that if at any time a good milch cow should go dry before her milk is gone, get a young calf and put it to her, in order to preserve her milk against another year; for it is well known if a cow goes dry one year, nature will lose its power of acting in future.

Cows should be treated with great gentleness and soothed by mild usages, especially when young and ticklish, or when the paps are tender; in which case the udder ought to be fomented with warm water before milking, and touched with great gentleness, otherwise the cow will be in great danger of contracting bad habits, becoming stubborn and unruly, and retaining her milk ever after. A cow never gives down her milk pleasantly to a person she dreads or dislikes. The udder and paps should be washed with warm water before milking, and care should be taken that none of the water be admitted into the milking pail.

The keeping of cows in such a manner as to make them give the greatest quantity of milk, and with the greatest clear profit, is an essential point of economy. Give a cow half a bushel of turnips, carrots, or other good roots per day, during the six winter months, besides her hay, and if her summer feed be such as it should be, she will give nearly double the quantity of milk she would afford if only kept during the winter in the usual manner; and the milk will be richer and of better quality.

The carrots or other roots, at nineteen cents a bushel, amount to about eighteen dollars; the addition of milk, allowing it to be only three quarts a day for three hundred days, at three cents a quart, twentyseven dollars. It should be remembered, too, that when cows are thus fed with roots, they consume less hay, and are less liable to several diseases, which are usually the effects of poor keeping.

The keeping of cows is very profitable. Allowing one to give only six quarts a day, for forty weeks in each year, and this is not a large allowance, her milk at two cents per quart, will amount to upwards of thirtythree dollars; which is probably sufficient to purchase her and pay for a year's keeping.

A farmer some years since kept eighteen cows on a common, and was often obliged to buy butter for his family. The common was enclosed, and the same person supplied his family, amply with milk and butter from the produce of four cows well kept.

Great milkers seldom carry much flesh on their bones, but they pay as they go and never retire in our debt. The difficulties in cow-keeping are these: the expense of their food is considerable, more especially with respect to any which must be purchased, and if the produce be inconsiderable it may be a losing concern. You may be feeding a sparing milker into flesh, and if you stint her or allow her only ordinary food, you get neither flesh nor milk.

Amateurs in this line should procure the largest milkers, and I had almost said, give them gold, could they eat it. In this case it may be depended on, milk is always of more value than the best cow food; and a cow, the natural tendency of which is to breed milk, will convert all nourishment, however dry and substantial, into that fluid; in fact, will require such solid kind of nourishment to support her strength and induce her to take the bull. (Mowbray on Poultry, &c.)

Keep no more cows than you can keep well:—one cow well fed, will produce as much milk as two indifferently treated, and more butter; and if the cow be wintered badly, she will rarely recover during the succeeding summer so as to become profitable to the feeder. Cows should by all means be housed in extreme weather, and particularly those which give milk, or a failure in the quantity of milk will be experienced. Wherefore, instead of keeping twenty cows poorly fed, and but half of them stabled, sell ten, and give the remaining ten food in amount equal to what the twenty originally had; procure constant stabling for them, and you will receive quite as much milk and butter in return as was derived from the former mode of treating twenty. Sweet potatoes, carrots, pumpkins, and ground oats, are unquestionably among the best articles for food for milch cattle; and they occasion the milk and butter to assume a fine flavor and color, as well as increase of quantity. (Trenton Emporium.)

Pure water is an essential article for cows. Of this they should have a continual supply.

The following prescription for drying off cows, is given in Monk's Agricultural Dictionary: Take an ounce of powdered alum: boil it in two quarts of milk till it turns to whey; then take a large handful of sage, and boil it in the whey till you reduce it to one quart; rub her udder with a little of it, and give her the rest by way of drink; milk her clean before you give it to her; and as you see need repeat it. Draw a little milk from her every second or third day, lest her udder be overcharged.

The day and night after a cow has calved, she should be kept under cover, and her drink should be lukewarm.

From the Western Farmer.

## EFFECT OF A WET SUBSOIL ON TREES.

No man should undertake to plant ordinary forest or fruit trees on soils tenacious of water, until they have been fully drained. Trees may live on such soils, but they can never flourish, nor will fruit from trees so situated, ever be equal in size and flavor to that grown from trees where the ground is properly prepared. Some years since, a gentleman at Seneca Falls wished to plant his grounds with ornamental trees. The soil was a deep clay, very tenacious of water, and several of his first efforts entirely failed, nearly every tree perishing. The holes were dug large, and the trees well set, but it was found that the holes acted as mere basins or reservoirs filled with stagnant water. To remedy this evil, he had drains dug in such a manner that the holes for the trees were kept free from all surplus water, and as a necessary consequence, the next planting of trees succeeded to admiration. We see in a late number of the Boston Cultivator, that Mr Phinney, of Lexington, well known as one of the most skilful farmers in this country, who has about six hundred bearing apple trees of the finest grafted fruit, has been obliged, in establishing his orchards, in some instances to have recourse to thorough-draining the soil, and always with the best success. Mr P. makes his drains from two to three feet deep, according to the nature of the soil, leaves a water course of about eight inches covered with flat stones, on these brush and briers are thrown, and the whole filled in with the earth thrown from the ditches.

There can be no doubt that a regard to this subject, wherever trees are to be planted, whether for use or for ornament, especially if the subsoil be a tenacious one, would prevent many failures and disappointments, and in fruit orchards add great value to the product. A sound, healthy soil is necessary to the health of the tree, and particularly to transplanted ones. Every one acquainted with hard, tenacious subsoils, knows that where trees grow naturally upon them, the roots never penetrate this cold, wet substance, but are spread near the surface, and when blown down by the wind, their roots exhibit a thin shield-like form, wholly unlike those of a tree in a deep and permeable soil. If trees must be planted on soils of this nature, let nature herself be imitated; and instead of forcing the roots into pits or pools of stagnant water, as all mere holes in such earth must be, let them be spread over the surface as much as may be, and the holes and covering be proportionably shallow. But the best way in this case, as in all others where soils are to be cultivated, is to drain first, and then plant or till afterwards.

## LARGE AND SMALL FARMERS.

There is no mistake more common nor more injurious, than that of supposing that the more land a man holds, the greater must be his profits; for the profit does not arise from the land itself, but from the manner of using it; for the best soil may be made unproductive by bad management, while the worst may bs rendered profitable by the opposite course; but without *sufficient capital* no land can be properly cultivated. At the same time, there is nothing to which capital can be applied with greater certainty of a fair return for liberal expenditure, when correctly employed, than land. In fact, assuming always that the expenditure be directed with judgment, it will be found that the profit upon the outlay increases in more than a proportionate degree to its amount; thus, supposing twentyfive dollars be the lowest, and fifty the highest sum that can be employed in the common culture of the same acre of land, it is more than probable that if twentyfive dollars return at the rate of ten per cent., the fifty dollars will yield twenty, or any intermediate sum, at the same progressive ratio. And admitting this to be true—and it is presumed no experienced agriculturist will doubt it—it follows that a capital of five thousand dollars expended in the cultivation of two hundred, will only yield a profit of five hundred dollars, while, if applied to no more than one hundred acres, it would produce one thousand dollars;—therefore, it is evident that his profit would be increased by diminishing the quantity of his land. Many a man has been ruined by a large farm, who might have acquired a competency with one of half the size. Most farmers are anxious for large occupations, and many are thus betrayed into the error of taking a greater quantity of ground than they have the means of managing to advantage; some in the delusive hope of acquiring those means by future saving—others, from the vanity of holding more land than their neighbors; hence arises deficiency of stock, imperfect tillage, and scant crops, with all the consequent train of rent in arrear, wages ill paid, and debts unsatisfied—distress, duns, and final ruin. While he, who prudently commences with only such a number of acres as he has the power of cultivating with proper effect, is certain of obtaining the full return from the soil, and not being burdened with more land than he can profitably enjoy, his engagements are within his means; and thus, while enjoying present ease of mind, he lays the surest foundation for future prosperity. It therefore behoves a man to weigh well the charges with his means, and never allow himself to be seduced, by any ideal prospect of gain, into the imprudence of entering upon a larger farm than his property will enable him to manage with the spirit necessary to ensure success.—*British Husbandry.*

## TOMATO FIGS.

PATENT OFFICE, July 10, 1841.

DEAR SIR—The medicinal qualities of tomatoes have greatly increased their cultivation, and every new preparation of the article is deserving consideration. A sample of "tomato figs" has just been deposited at the Patent Office, of a very superior quality. From the taste I should suppose all the good qualities of the fruit are retained. In appearance, the drum of tomatoes resembles one of figs so nearly, that they might easily be mistaken for the same.

The sample is deposited by Mrs Steiger of this city, and the recipe transmitted with it is enclosed for publication. It is deeply to be regretted that since the periodicals of the day are open to communications, that so many valuable improvements are lost to the world, barely for the want of publicity. Others may have dried the tomatoes with a recipe, however less successful.

Very respectfully, H. L. ELLSWORTH.

*Hon. J. S. Skinner.*

RECIPE.—Take six pounds of sugar to one peck (or 16 lbs.) of the fruit. Scald and remove the skin of the fruit in the usual way. Cook them over a fire, their own juice being sufficient without the addition of water, until the sugar penetrates and they are clarified. They are then taken out, spread on dishes, flattened and dried in the sun. A small quantity of the syrup should be occasionally sprinkled over them whilst drying; after which, pack them down in boxes, treating each layer with powdered sugar. The syrup is afterwards concentrated and bottled for use. They keep well from year to year, and retain surprisingly their flavor, which is nearly that of the best quality of fresh figs. The pear-shaped or single tomatoes answer the purpose best. Ordinary brown sugar may be used, a large portion of which is retained in the syrup.—*American Farmer.*

## THE BEE.

The sting by which the bee defends itself and its property from its natural enemies, is composed of three parts; the sheath amd two darts, which are extremely small and penetrating.—Both the darts are furnished with small points or barbs, like that of a fish-hook, which by causing the wound inflicted by the sting to rankle, renders it more painful. Still the effect of the sting itself would be but slight, if the insect were not provided with a supply of poisonous matter, which it injects into the wound. The sheath, which has a sharp point, makes the first impression; this is followed by that of the darts, and then the venomous liquor is poured in. The sheath sometimes sticks so fast to the wound, that the insect is obliged to leave it behind; this considerably augments the inflammation of the wound, and to the bee itself the mutilation proves fatal.

Were it not for the protection of its sting, the bee would have too many rivals in sharing the produce of its labors. A hundred lazy animals, fond of honey, and hating labor, would intrude upon the sweets of the hive: and for want of armed guardians to protect it, this treasure would become the prey of worthless depredators. It sometimes happens that a young swarm choose to enter a hive already occupied; when a most desperate conflict ensues, which will last for hours, and even for days, and the space around will be found covered with the slain. These desperate conflicts not only take place between strangers, but also between inhabitants of the same hive—offspring of the same mother. The causes which bring division into so united a society have not been hitherto ascertained.

On fair days, when the sun is warm, duels may often be seen to take place between two inhabitants of the same hive.—In some cases the quarrel appears to have begun within, and the combatants may be seen coming out of the hive, eager "for blows." Sometimes a bee setted on the outside of the hive, or walking about, is rudely jostled by another; and then the attack commences, each endeavoring to obtain the most advantageous position. They turn, pirouette, and throttle each other; and such is their bitter earnestness, that I have often been enabled to come near enough to observe them with a lens without causing a separation. After rolling about in the dust, the victor, watching the time when its enemy uncovers his body, by elongating it, in the attempt to sting, thrusts its weapon between the scales, and the next instant its antagonist stretches out its quivering wings, and expires.

A bee cannot be killed so suddenly, except by

crushing, as by the sting of another bee. Sometimes the stronger insect produces the death of the vanquished by squeezing its chest. After this feat has been done, the victorious bee constantly remains near his victim, standing on his four front legs, and rubbing the two posterior ones together. Sometimes the enemy is killed in the hive; then the victor always carries the corpse out of the city, and leaves it. These combats are strictly duels; not more than two being concerned in them; and this is even the case where armies of bees meet in combat.—*New Haven Farmers' Gazette.*

## NEW METHOD OF TANNING LEATHER.

A new method of tanning has been introduced by a Mr Howd, an account of which is given in the Wayne Standard. It amounts to this. An air-tight, cylindrical vat is constructed, with an orifice for putting in the skins, with pipes by which to admit and discharge the liquor, and with an air-pump for the purpose of exhausting the air from within the vat. Having suspended some skins, prepared in the ordinary way, and produced, as nearly as possible, a vacuum with the air-pump, some cold hemlock liquor is, after an hour, admitted and suffered to remain ten minutes. It is then discharged, and the vat exhausted of air and kept so for an hour; then the liquor is again admitted for ten minutes and discharged. After repeating this process six times, a piece of calf skin of ordinary thickness, was taken out, dried and curried, and by good judges pronounced to be a first rate and unequalled quality of leather. To thicker and heavier skins the liquor is admitted from twelve to eighteen times. Some pieces when curried, were declared by experienced shoemakers and tanners to be handsomer, stronger and more flexible leather than if tanned in the old way. The time required is from twelve to thirtysix hours.

The theory of the process is this. The exhaustion of the air from the vat removes from the skin that atmospheric pressure which is a chief principle of capillary attraction, and causes a rapid evaporization, by which the uncharged water and galic acid in the skins are thrown off, and also produces a reduction of temperature which effects a contraction of fibre in the skins, thereby further expelling their uncharged water, and thus affords to the liquor when admitted, a more easy and ready penetration into them.

## DYSENTERY.

As the season of dysentery, which is a *very* fatal complaint, is near by, suffer us to advise parents to keep their children by all means from unripe and indigestible fruit and exposures to colds. When a patient is attacked by dysentery, give him a moderate dose of castor oil—no drastic physic—just enough gently to remove the offending contents of the bowels, and put him to a generous sweat. The skin has an important office to perform in the cure of this disease. Let mucilaginous drinks, such as slippery elm, mallows, buckhorn, break-root, &c., be given freely, to operate as a sheathing for the inflamed intestines. This simple treatment, pursued in season, may save the lives of your children, and the expense of a doctor's bill. Many people do not seem to know that diarrhœa is not dysentery. They are widely different diseases, and should have different treatment. In the one case, the bowels are cold—in the other, heated and inflamed. In case of dysentery, great attention should be paid to the skin, to keep the pores constantly open and the surface moist. The determinations being outward, rather than inward, as they are when the disease is progressing, will discharge the offending causes through the pores and thus relieve the system of a burden, which seeking a different and unhealthy channel of communication, increases the inflammation, which in due time is followed by mortification and death. We should as soon think of rubbing brandy on to a sore upon the skin, occasioned by the scraping off of the flesh, with a view to heal it, as to turn so violent a medicine into the inflamed and bleeding intestines. In case of diarrhœa, this may be a useful prescription, because it will stimulate the cold system and arouse it to an effort to throw off the disease; but in cases of dysentery, it is but adding fuel to the fire.—*Maine Cult.*

## BIRDS AND THEIR NESTS.

By making the performance of indispensable duties delightful, and by proportioning the sense or degree of pleasure to the importance of the act, the Supreme Being seems to consummate His designs, and to govern the world by means that strikingly display the beneficence of His nature; since, through his omnipotence, every thing might have been accomplished by compulsatory and arbitrary laws.

This principle is beautifully illustrated in what, at first sight, appears the least pleasurable path of duty,—in the nidification of birds; though upon it depends the continuance of the species; and, when attentively considered, it affords a fine exemplification, not only of the *wisdom* of God in the creation, but of his *goodness*. I allude to the feeling, or sentiment, which animates and gives joy to the breast of a bird, during what appears to us, the irksome and arduous task of incubating her eggs.

To the eye of a careless observer, the spectacle of a little bird cowering close to the earth, in some solitary spot, under the waving canopy of a broad leaf or tuft of grass—remote from communion with her old associates—neglectful of all those little niceties and personal attentions of trimming and smoothening her plumage, which heretofore she had been wont to perform with so much care—relinquishing her favorite haunts by the brook, the spray, or the grove—no longer free to enjoy her morning excursions through the clear azure of heaven, to hail the rising orb of day—forgetting almost to gather the necessary supply of food—sitting for days and nights and weeks together, on a little bed of weeds, careless whether it be light or dark, hot or cold, wet or dry, and wholly regardless of every thing which, but a short time before, had yielded her delight;—to such an observer, a spectacle like this might appear not only extraordinary, but even unaccountably stupid; and he would at least consider it as an instance of singular and distressing patience. But the true philosopher of nature knows the real state of the case to be far from being either painful, or an exciting cause of pity. He knows that the most dear, sweet, tender, important and interesting of all sentiments, is at that time pervading the whole palpitating bosom of the little bird, and imparting to it a joy the most thrilling and unutterable.

It is in marking the birth and progress of this secret, mysterious, impulse, that we are able to perceive its force and utility. If the duty of incubation had not been accompanied, as it is, by sensations of the highest pleasure, we may readily imagine that, from the trouble and privations to be supported during its continuance, there would have been great danger of its not being performed at all; and, consequently, a risk of extinction to that race of animals. But, by a wise dispensation of Providence, the exquisite feelings of joy by which this service is accompanied, are made to increase exactly in proportion to the necessity there exists for the attentions of the parent. Thus, in the early stages of incubation, this pleasurable sensation to which I am alluding, is felt only in a small degree; but, with the deposite of each succeeding egg, it increases in fervor, till, at length, when the whole number are laid, it has reached such a height and constancy, that the bird finds she can no longer endure an absence from them; she therefore covers and presses them close to her bosom, and as, by the genial warmth of her body, the embryo gradually matures, her attention and assiduity become more and more fixed, and her whole existence seems absorbed in that critical moment when the shell cracks, opens, and the trembling naked little youngling tumbles into active life.

Hitherto, the pleasures of the parent seem to have consisted in a total abstraction of all her faculties from external objects, in delightful reveries of fancy, or in dreams of the future. She seems to have been looking forward with pleasing, patient hope, for the period when her little ones should break from their imprisonment, and become tenants of the air. Converting, by these means, what would otherwise be a painful task, into the most delightful employment of her existence. Now, when she finds the reward of her assiduity; when she feels her new-born progeny crowding to her downy breast; she is all life and spirit. From the earliest dawn to the fall of twilight, she is constantly on the wing, seeking far and near for the food suitable for them. She seems never weary, is never negligent. The cries of her callow brood are continually sounding in her ear. She feels that they require her constant care, and she gives it.—But in the midst of all this interesting bustle, it is curious and instructive to observe, that from the moment in which the young are emancipated from the egg-shells, the period when attention is most necessary, the fervor and constancy of affection in the parent gradually abates as they become feathered and acquire strength. The period of hatching is the grand climax; before that time it has been gradually increasing; afterwards, it as gradually declines, exactly in the ratio of the necessity, till it is no longer required, when it ceases altogether, and the offspring are left to shift for themselves. So wise, so regular, so unerring, are the laws which govern this beautiful creation.—*Fothergill's Philosophy of Natural History.*

*Swedish Stables.*—In Sweden the horse stables are never littered at all. The floors of the stable are planked; the planks perforated with holes, so that no wet can remain on them; and these planks kept clean, are the only bedding allowed. To this method of treating their horses, (strange as it appears to Englishmen, or those who litter their stables carefully,) the Swedes attribute the soundness of their horses' feet, as it is quite uncommon to meet with a lame or foundered horse in Sweden, that has been so stabled.

We are ruined not by what we want, but by what we *think* we want.

## REMEDY FOR THE GLANDERS, &c. IN HORSES.

Seeing in one of the numbers of the Farmer's Register, an account of a fatal disease prevailing among the horses in some of the lower counties, which I supposed to be the glanders, or blind staggers, from the manner in which they are affected; I am induced to communicate to my brother farmers through your valuable paper, a remedy that I have never known to fail of effecting a cure, if practiced in time. Whether the glanders, and what is called the blind staggers, is the same disease or not, they are certainly nearly allied. The head is the seat of the disease in both cases; it commences with violent inflammation of the head, and soon matter forms in the glands between the nostril and brain. The disease prevailed in this neighborhood some twenty years ago. The first horse I had ever seen with the disease, belonged to my father, who had lost several previous to the one then sick; the horse was then on his broadside, and was given up as a hopeless case. I had heard that boring into the scull with a gimlet, would relieve them. I procured a large ten-penny gimlet, and just between the eyes of the horse I bored in about three inches. This gave vent to the matter which had formed in the glands, the horse appeared to be relieved from pain, and by introducing a probe for a day or two, the horse was upon his feet and feeding, and in a few weeks was entirely recovered, and was a serviceable horse for some years. The next case was a riding horse of my own. Such was the violence of the pain, that he would thrust his head against the side of the stable and bear with his weight for a minute, then stagger about until he became too weak to stand. I then proceeded to bore with a ten-penny gimlet as described in the other case, and in a few weeks the horse was well.

*Worms in Children.*—While I have my pen in my hand, I will give you another fact which may profit some of your readers. I took charge of my estate twentyseven years ago, having from that time until now, from thirty to sixty in my family, [the writer is a slaveholder,] and within that time have not lost one child under twelve years, (either black or white,) with the exception of one a few hours after its birth, and I attribute it principally to the following remedy, which keeps them free from worms: take the fat of old bacon sliced and fried in a pan until the essence is all out of it, take out the rind first, then put in as much wormseed (vulgarly called Jerusalem oak,) as is necessary, as much sugar or molasses as will make it palatable, give it three mornings in succession. The children will eat it freely—some you will have to restrain from eating too much. Incredible as it may appear, I have known as many as one hundred and twenty or thirty large worms come from a child of three or four years old. I usually give the medicine spring and fall. I am satisfied that if the above remedy was more practiced in families, that it would be the means of preserving the lives of many children, for if worms are not the immediate cause of disease with children, they greatly aggravate disease of any other character.—*Farmers' Register.*

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*Horn Distemper.* A correspondent of the Boston Cultivator says a spoonful of boiling hot brimstone, put into the cavity just between the horns, is the best application for this disease.

## ICE HOUSES.

A correspondent has addressed to us inquiries relating to the use of tan in fitting up ice-houses. In answer to his inquiries, we re-publish from vol. x. page 129 of the N. E. Farmer, the following communication:

Mr Fessenden—Your correspondent C., whose communication was given vol. x. page 13, of the New England Farmer, complains of not being able to keep his ice through the summer, and imputes it to the soil on which his house is located. I have an ice-house which is built on the same kind of soil which he describes, say a gravelly knoll. I dug a pit say from 8 to 12 inches larger than I intended the frame. I dug it about 8 feet below the surface, and with the gravel which came out of the pit, I raised it about 2 feet. My frame was 10 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 10 feet deep. I planked it up with two-inch hemlock planks, and filled the space on the outside, which was from 8 to 12 inches, with tan, and rammed it down as fast as I planked it up, till I came to the top of the frame. I then put on rafters of joists 4 or 5 inches square, and lined them and filled the space with tan as tight as it could be rammed in, and then shingled the roof. The ends were boarded up, with a door at each end, for the convenience of filling the house. My house holds about 6 cords. I fill it with square pieces of ice, as close as I can pack them. I put nothing between the layers of ice, nor on the sides, nor do I break any in pieces to fill up the spaces, except broken pieces that will not make good stowage. I have filled the house to the top of the frame. I then fill the roof with shavings, and ram them down as tight as I can. I have had no difficulty in keeping my ice, and have spared as much as we have used, and have often ice in the house when we clear it for filling afresh. I think shavings are better than straw, as they will not rot so soon by the dampness. I go to the ice-house at any time of day when ice is wanted. My ice-house has no drains to it. Under the plank at bottom, I rounded out a place lengthwise, about a foot deep, sloping towards the middle like an egg cut in two lengthwise, which I think is sufficient to receive all the water that will waste from the ice.

I remain, with respect,
Your most obedient servant,
A Subscriber.

*Medford, Oct.* 28, 1831.

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If every farmer would cultivate no more land with an exhausting crop than he could well manage—if he would never plant upon plowed ground with the view of taking more of the original stamina from the land in the present crop than he communicates to it—we should see much less of what is called poor land. From what we daily see in travelling the country, we are inclined to the belief that there is much less difference in the quality of land than there is in the treatment of it. Strong land with a hard pan, yields more when it is first cleared and will last longer than lighter lands; but when both shall be reduced by several exhausting crops, it begins to be generally conceded that the lighter land for many purposes is more valuable than the stronger, heavier lands. Pursuing a regular rotation of crops with effectual manuring, it is even thought the lighter land will give most profit, and that the crop through the extremes of drought and wet, will be most sure.—*Farmer's Monthly Visitor.*

From the New Hampshire Sentinel.

## HOOF AIL.

Messrs Editors—An article appeared in the columns of your paper, in April last, requesting information in regard to a disorder which has been prevalent for some time past among cattle generally termed the Hoof-ail. It is truly a very bad disease, and calls for the attention of every one who is engaged in agricultural pursuits, and has a stock of cattle under his care. That cattle are subject to disease, as well as the human species, I think will be readily admitted by every one who takes the matter into consideration. We find, by recurring to the past history of our country, that the human family do not live to attain to so great an age, generally speaking, at the present day, and enjoy uninterrupted good health, as they formerly did, when the country was new. And may we not draw the same inference in regard to the brute creation? Are they as hearty and robust, do they thrive and do as well at the present day, as they did when the country was new—when our pastures and mowing lands abounded with white clover, and grasses of a similar nature? We think they do not.

The writer of the article above alluded to, it appears, wished to know if the lameness among cattle at present, is the Hoof-ail, so termed, and is produced by a substance on the grass called Ergot. That there is an excresence to be found attached to the grass of that kind, and its poisoning qualities producing the lame disease, we cannot deny, although I have never seen any thing of the kind growing out of the same. One thing, however, is certain, that there is something which the cattle get that produces the disorder alluded to.—We give our views on the subject, and the enlightened public may make such comments on them as they may deem most proper.

From partial experience and observation, I find that where pastures having June grass growing in them are fed so short that it cannot attain to much height, and where it is cut early for hay, this lameness is not so prevalent among cattle. I have some of the June grass on my farm, and have in years past had two of my cows troubled with the Hoof-ail. One of them was very lame, and I dried her, (for she gave milk, and I never knew of one lame that did not,) and she soon got well. The other was taken lame in the fall, and so continued through the winter, growing worse all the time. I milked her during that period, thinking I would see the result. In the spring I took a parcel of bones boiled soft in weak ley made from ashes, pounded those that were not fine, and gave them to her, and she ate them; I likewise gave the rest of my cows some, and occasionally saltpetre mixed with salt. The lame one soon got well, and did well ever after, while I kept her. In short, I would say that I think, by giving milch cows, in the spring, a plenty of bones boiled in weak ley, afterwards enough salt, with once in a while some saltpetre pounded fine and mixed with it, say a table spoonful to a cow, and cutting the hay very early where the June grass grows, keeping the pastures fed short in summer, and the cattle in warm stables through the winter, properly tended, the Hoof-ail will not be very troublesome. The symptoms preceding this malady seem to be, a loss of appetite, growing poor, going stiff, gnawing boards, sticks, &c. A board well soaked in the stale of

the barnyard, seems to relish best. I have thought sometimes that it was cheaper to keep cows on hemlock boards than on hay, especially if hay was $20 a ton.——[This suggestion is worthy consideration—for aside from the probable advantage in point of economy, of "keeping" cows on *hemlock boards* in lieu of hay, the *butter* from stock thus "kept," would doubtless bring an extra price, from the *peculiarity* of its flavor!—"P. D."]

My cows have done well ever since I have treated them in the manner alluded to above. I have had no cows lame for two years past, and feel none afraid of the disorder.

*Roxbury, July*, 1841. C. G. B.

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From the Albany Cultivator.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SHINGLING.

*Messrs Gaylord & Tucker*—It is known to every person of observation, that shingles composing the roof of a building, first give way round the nail, owing doubtless to the water penetrating by the nail hole. In the erection of a barn this summer on my farm near this place, it was a matter of some consideration with me to remedy this defect. I adopted the following simple, cheap, and I believe *efficacious* plan. I have mentioned it to a number of experienced workmen and gentlemen of judgment, and they coincide in one opinion of its advantages. I have therefore thought it a duty to communicate through the medium of your paper, that others may be benefited by its adoption. The plan is this:—The workmen, when shingling, have a small tin cup suspended at their breast, by a string passed around the neck—into the cup is put a portion of white lead ground in oil, of the consistence as taken from the keg of the manufacturer;—as the workman handles the nail, he dips the point into the white lead, to which a portion adheres;—when driven, the white lead is forced up as the nail passes in, and completely fills up the hole, and the head of the nail is imbedded in the paint, thus preventing the penetration of water by the nail-hole, and the corrosion of the nail-head. The progress of the workman is very little retarded by the operation. A keg of 25 lbs. will do for about ten thousand shingles. The same process will do for sideing or weather-boarding, and indeed in every instance where the nail is exposed to the weather. JAS. L. BOWMAN.

*Brownsville, Penn., June* 25, 1841.

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## ECONOMY IN A FAMILY.

There is nothing which goes so far towards placing young people beyond the reach of poverty, as economy in the management of their domestic affairs. It matters not whether a man furnish little or much for his family, if there is a leakage in his kitchen or in the parlor, it runs away he knows not how, and that damon, Waste, cries more, like the horse-leech's daughter, until he that has provided has no more to give. It is the husband's duty to bring into the house, and it is the duty of the wife to see that nothing goes wrongfully out of it. A man gets a wife to look after his affairs, and to assist him in his journey through life—to educate and prepare his children for a proper station in life, and not to dissipate his property. The husband's interest should be the wife's care, and her greatest ambition should carry her no farther than his welfare or happiness, together with that of her children.

This should be her sole aim. She may do as much at home towards making a fortune, as he can do in the workshop or the counting room. It is not the money earned that makes a man wealthy—it is what he saves from his earnings. A good and prudent husband makes a deposite of the fruits of his labor with his best friend; and if the friend be not true to him, what has he to hope? If he dare not place confidence in the companion of his bosom, where is he to place it? A wife acts not for herself only, but she is the agent of the man she loves, and she is bound to act for his good, and not for her own gratification. Her husband's good is the end to which she should aim—his approbation is her reward. Self-gratification in dress, or indulgence in appetite, or more company than his purse can well entertain, are equally pernicious: the first adds vanity to extravagance—the second fastens a doctor's bill to a long butcher's account—and the latter brings intemperance, the first of all evils, in its train.—*Sunbury Amer.*

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## AMERICAN WOOL PRODUCT.

To those who have paid the subject but little attention, the amount of money invested in the production of wool within the United States, will seem surprising. It is very generally believed that this is quite a secondary branch of our general interest, instead of one of the most fruitful sources of our wealth, and best deserving the cherishing protection of our Government. As shown by the returns of the late census, we have in this country, exclusive of North Carolina, Michigan and Kentucky, 19,085,962 sheep; and taking ten dollars as the average value of land necessary to sustain a sheep and make a fair allowance for the price of the animals themselves, for the labor necessary for their proper superintendence with that required to prepare their product for its first market, which are as much part of the investment as the land which sustained them, the aggregate amount of capital invested in this branch of industry will be at least two hundred millions of dollars. This is certainly an immense sum, and well deserves the attention of the General Government. At present, England supplies us annually with some ten millions worth of broadcloths, and after all chooses to import her wool from the continent, to the entire exclusion of our own. In 1839, her entire import of this article was 57,395,944 pounds, and while we had some 40,000,000 pounds of wool remaining at home, nearly two fifths of the whole woollen manufactures of Great Britain came to the U. States. And yet we have only $15,000,000 invested in woollen manufactures.

Of the aggregate amount of wool grown in the United States in 1839, New York produced 4,012,144 pounds; Ohio, 3,650,970; Vermont, 2,257,795; which, in proportion to her population, is much the largest amount grown in any State; Pennsylvania, 3,076,783; Virginia, 2,672,044; Maine, 1,465,551; New Hampshire, 1,260,988; Indiana, 1,202,209; Massachusetts, 1,055,591; Tennessee, 1,029,516; and the other States various amounts between the 893,675 pounds of Connecticut, and the 45,524 of Louisiana.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

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The best cucumbers for pickles are those not much larger than a man's thumb. If not convenient to pickle them all at once, they may be salted down, like pork, and freshened any time of year afterwards, as they may be wanted.

## SALT AND ASHES MIXED FOR STOCK.

Last winter (says a correspondent of the Farmer's Journal,) I saw it recommended in an agricultural paper, to mix salt with ashes for stock.—Having tested the utility of the practice, I am now prepared to speak favorably of it, and from a firm conviction that stock, of all descriptions, are essentially benefited thereby. My cows, work-horses, and young cattle, as well as sheep, have been regularly supplied with it, as often as once a week, since the snow went off, and notwithstanding the feed in the pastures has been quite short, in consequence of drought, for a large part of the season, the animals are healthy, and generally in better condition than we have known them for years.

Sheep, especially, are extremely fond of it, preferring it to pure salt, and eating it as eagerly as they do meal or corn. As to the general efficacy of the practice, and its tendency as respects the health of stock, I will merely say in conclusion, that I am acquainted with several farmers that have made the same trial, and that no instance, with which I am familiar, or which has fallen under my notice, has it been attended with other than the best effects. The proportions in which the ingredients should be given, are one part salt to seven of ashes. The salt should be fine, and the ashes dry and free from coals. If thought necessary, the salt may be increased in quantity to two or even three quarts, instead of one. Try it, farmers, and see if it doth not "do good like a medicine."

A Farmer.

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A horse-rake, to collect leaves, &c. from the woods, has been invented by Mr Lownes, and is described in the Southern Planter. It is formed by boring 8 two-inch holes through a locust or gum log, and putting teeth, made of seasoned locust, drawn to a point, and driven through from the top of the log. The teeth are two feet long, the log eight inches in diameter, and three feet and a half long; the shafts just long enough to balance the log, which falls back considerably, from the great lean the teeth are obliged to have, to collect the trash. With this rake, the inventor has collected fifteen cartloads an hour, and calculates upon obtaing at the rate of fifteen hundred loads a year.

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*Preserving Eggs.* A Mr Jayne, of Yorkshire, England, obtained a patent for the following receipt for preserving eggs, which we think worthy of trial:

One bushel of quick lime, 32 ounces of salt, 8 ounces of cream of tartar.

Mix the same together with as much water as will reduce the composition to such a consistency that an egg when put into it will swim.

By this method, it is said, eggs have been kept sound two years.

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*Mechanics' Fair.*—We are happy to learn that the coming Fair of the Mass. Charitable Mechanic Association, will equal, if not surpass, in splendor and variety, any of its former ones. The Superintendent is now at Quincy Hall, where contributors are requested to call and give notice of their intentions. It is encouraging to know that our New England artisans take such an interest in and appreciate this well deserving exhibition, which gives so good an opportunity for the display of works of genius and art.—*Boston paper.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER, 1, 1841.

## INDIAN CORN—CUTTING OR TOPPING THE STALKS.

It is a well ascertained fact the leaves perform an important part in aiding the growth and in maturing all our fruits and grains. They elaborate the sap and fit it for nourishing every part of the plant. This being admitted, the inference necessarily follows, that the leaves should not be removed as long as the fruit requires more nourishment. If the top is taken from the stalk while the corn is yet immature, nothing else can be expected to result, than a diminution of the crop. Those farmers who are accustomed to cut the stalk while it is green, may be losers by the operation.

Various experiments have been made—all of which, as far as we know—go to prove that where the process of cutting is omitted, the crop is from 10 to 20 per cent greater, than where the top is taken off, when the grain has but just begun to harden. Mr Clark's account given in Vol. X. of this paper, and other accounts in subsequent years all show as great a difference as we have named. One remark in those accounts deserves particular notice. It is stated that, before harvesting, there was *no perceptible* difference in the two parcels of corn with which the trial was made; and yet when tried in the half-bushel and by the scales, the result has been uniform in favor of leaving the stalk unmutilated.

Now we neither expect nor ask farmers to depart entirely from their usual process, but as it is easy for them to leave two or four rows through their cornfield untouched, and then to measure the product of those rows, and also of an equal number of contiguous rows at the time of harvesting, and thus confirm or refute the correctness of the opinion that it injures the corn to take off the top—as this is an easy process, we request every grower of this crop, who may chance to read this article to make the experiment. If it shall be found that the usual process subjects us to a loss of 7 to 10 bushels of corn per acre, as the published accounts teach that it does, then the question is surely worth settling. If the loss be thus large, then every consideration of interest, calls upon our farmers to abandon their old ways.

But it will be said that the top stalks are worth much more as fodder, if cut while full of sap. This is true; and the question to be settled is, whether more is gained by the increased worth of the stover, than is lost by the diminution of the corn. Experiments—experiments in many fields should be made for the purpose of determining this point. We urge this with more earnestness than we do most experiments; because here there is scarcely the possibility of a loss which could be sensibly felt by even the poorest farmer.

The statement above referred to, that no difference was perceived in the parcels of corn before harvesting, shows the importance of avoiding all guess work in this matter.—We have been satisfied from other sources that very few eyes can make any near approach to accuracy in measuring the quantity of corn upon an acre; or in measuring the comparative yield of two contiguous rows. There should be accurate measurement.

## INDIAN CORN—CUTTING AT THE ROOT AND STOOKING.

We have been accustomed for a few years past to this process, and we prefer it to topping the stalk, and leaving the corn standing. We have no doubt that the stover is worth more; and we have no doubt that the corn is sweeter and heavier. The summer grains, wheat, rye and barley, are lessened in quantity and deteriorated in quality, by standing uncut after the straw begins to turn yellow; and, until experience proves the contrary, it might be expected that the same would be true in relation to Indian corn. Our experience is in accordance with this expectation. Some ears from our field, taken where the stalks had been topped, and other ears taken from the stooks were exhibited at the show of the Essex Agricultural Society, last autumn, and the committee on fruits and flowers, publicly, in their report, pronounced that the best which was taken from the stooks.

*Process.*—About one week later than the usual time of topping the stalks, when the husks on the earliest ears are beginning to turn white, cut at the root, laying three or four hills together for a bundle; lay the butts or bottoms even; the corn may be bound up immediately, green as it is; or it may be left open a day or two to dry. Rye straw, bulrushes or chair-flags are more convenient for bands than the corn stalks. After the binding of the bundles, the corn may be stooked immediately, taking eight or ten bundles for a stook; around the top put two or three bands; and if these be well put on, the rains will not penetrate so far as to do any harm.

Fears may be entertained that in this condition the corn will mould. But our experience teaches otherwise. We have had it in this situation through successive days of warm wet weather, and no injury suffered. Here it is secured against frost, against birds—(but not mice)—it is mostly secured against the dirt which autumn rains throw upon the leaves and husks. Let it remain in stook until it is well dried—from three to five or six weeks. Large stalks stand in stook much better than small ones. The larger the corn, the better is it suited to this process of curing.

## THE EFFECTS OF THE HAIL STORM.

Our readers may recollect what we said of the devastation produced by the storm which swept over the town of Wenham and over our own fields on the 30th of June. The appearances on the following day were that the labors of the husbandmen in that vicinity would receive but a small return. The damage has been great; the grass was badly broken, and the fields were thickly strewn with branches which the wind rent from the trees; the hay crop, consequently, was considerably damaged; the pastures, too, received a pounding which checked the growth of grass upon them, and lessened the feed; all the small grains were broken down, and where they had advanced so far as to be headed out, the crop was nearly ruined; but the late-sown oats recovered or grew up anew, and are now ripening. Peas were cut off, but started again from the roots and bore abundantly about the 10th of August; beans were seriously injured; vines were badly cut to pieces, but those which survived, have made a fair growth. Early potatoes which were in blossom at the time of the storm, *killed;* but the tops of late varieties have attained to a fair size: all the tender branches of trees were badly bruised, and will show their scars for years to come; all the fruit upon the side of those most exposed to the storm was beaten off—and the little that remains upon the opposite side was so bruised that it is gnarled and of but little worth. The Indian Corn, was beaten into shreds; there was little hope that it would recover. But most of the stalks, after a time, raised their heads; the battered rind or skin pealed off—looking like cast off snake skins all over the ground—the stalks were crooked in all possible ways, and the appearance of the crop may be conceived by imagining a community in which every person is deformed; one having a broken arm; another with a broken leg—a third a distorted spine, &c.,—but bad as appearances were there will be two thirds of three fourths of a usual crop. Week after week the stalks have been coming into shape, and now, a stranger to the grounds, would not suspect that the corn had been subjected to any extraordinarily rough usage.—The point to which attention is called, and which may be of service to those who may in future years receive a similar visitation, is this. Where the field was left untouched, the crop recovered more fully and rapidly than where clipping was resorted to. In a field adjoining ours, two rows through the centre of the corn lot were clipped at the ground; at the present time, there is little if any more than half as much, either of stalks or grain, on those rows, as on others which were left to work their way unaided.

Many of the beets, carrots, ruta baga, &c., were killed but those which survive are making a fair growth.

When giving our former accounts we estimated the damage to the small town of Wenham at $4000; but at present we should rate it at twice that sum. One of the hardships occasioned by the storm, has been a general deprivation of vegetables for home consumption, during five or six weeks of that portion of the year when these make a very acceptable, cheap, and wholsome food, and constitute an important part of the farmer's dinner.

## THE WEATHER.

After a long absence of any copious rains in this vicinity, we were favored on Saturday and Sunday, with thick mists, and on Monday, with an abundant rain. The long continuance of the fogs and clouds renders it probable that the rain has been widely extended, and gives hope that the later harvest and the autumn feed will revive and flourish.

### Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

*Saturday, Aug.* 28.

From S. Pond, Cambridgeport—Plums, of unusual variety and excellence—viz: Isabella, Washington, (very large and fine); Duane's Purple, Smith's Orleans, Pond's Seedling, Italian Damask, White Gage, Bingham, Prince's Imperial Gage. Mr Pond also exhibited specimens of the Julienne, Cushing and Bartlett Pears—the latter unripe.

From Robert Manning, Salem—Pears; Dearborn's Seedling (fine); Summer Franc Real, D'Amoror, Green Summer Sugar, August Muscat, Passaus d' Portugal, Gros Blonquet, Julienne, (fine.) Plums—Drop d'Or and a good specimen of the Gravestein apple.

From Otis Johnson, Lynn—Washington Plums.

From John F. Allen, Salem—Bartlett and Summer Franc Real Pears—the latter uncommonly fine; Grapes Barsaurabe and Constantia. Peaches—Early Royal George—handsome.

From John C. Lee, Salem—Grapes; Black Hamburg and Zinfendal—beautiful specimens. Pears; Julienne and Valle Franch; also, the Green Flesh Pine Apple Melon.

From M. P. Wilder—Pears; Julienne, Dearborn's Seedling and Hassel? Plums; Pond's Seedling, Bingham and Green Gage.

From J. Lovett, Beverly—Early Bough Apples; Bezi Blanc Pears; beautiful specimens of the Washington Plum and the Pine Apple Melon.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, Brighton—Black Hamburg Grapes; Duane's Purple and Bingham Plums—good specimens; also, Early Royal George Peaches.

From G. B. Perry—Wynkoop Harvest? Apples; beautiful and of fine flavor.

For the Committee,

OTIS JOHNSON.

It is stated that 20 or 30 cattle have died recently in the vicinity of Byfield, Mass., from eating (it is supposed) the leaves of the wild cherry tree. They expired in a few hours after they were attacked.

## MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

NOTICE.

The ANNUAL EXHIBITION, of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, will be held at their room, 23 Tremont Row, on *Wednesday*, *Thursday* and *Friday*, 22d, 23d and 24th of Sept.

Per order of the Committee of Arrangements.

S. WALKER, *Chairman.*

Boston, Sept. 25, 1841.

## THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending August 29.

| August, 1841. | | 5 A.M. | 12, M. | 7, P.M. | Wind. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Monday, | 23 | 59 | 72 | 68 | E. |
| Tuesday, | 24 | 60 | 75 | 66 | S. E. |
| Wednesday, | 25 | 50 | 79 | 67 | E. |
| Thursday, | 26 | 53 | 84 | 68 | E. |
| Friday, | 27 | 58 | 72 | 66 | S. |
| Saturday, | 28 | 64 | 72 | 66 | E. |
| Sunday, | 29 | 66 | 70 | 64 | S. E. |

## WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

*Corrected with great care, weekly.*

SEEDS. Herds Grass, very little in market. Red Top, 50 to 55 cents. Clover—Northern, 13c.—Southern, 10 c. Flax Seed, $1, 37 to 1 50 bu. Lucerne, 25 c. per lb.

FLOUR. Howard Street $6 87—Genesee $7 25—Ohio $6 75.

GRAIN. Corn—Northern Yellow none—Round Yellow 88—Southern Flat Yellow 80—White 80. — Rye—Northern 70 to 72—Southern none. Oats—Southern 45 to 47—Northern 50 to 54.

PROVISIONS. Beef—Mess $10 50 to 11 00—Prime $6 50—No. 1 $9 00. Pork—Extra—15 00—Clear 14 50—Mess $13 00. Hams—Northern 9 c. per lb—Southern, none. Lard—Boston 9 c per lb.—Southern, 8 to 8 1-2. Butter—Lump 18 to 22—Firkin 12 to 18—Shipping 8 to 14.

HAY, per ton, $18 to 20—Eastern Screwed $14 to 16.

CHEESE—Old 11 c.—New 8.

EGGS, 14 a 16.

WOOL—The market for this article has not experienced any change of late. Pulled Wool is rather scarce, and there is but a limited supply of low Fleeces and of fine Fleeces the stock is also moderate. Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 50 to 55 c.—American full blood, washed, 47 to 50—Do. 3 4 blood, washed, 44 to 46—Do. 1-2 blood, washed, 36 to 40—1-4 and common do, 35 to 37—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 to 23—Do. unwashed, 10 to 14—Bengasi Sheep, 8 to 10—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 to 10—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 43 to 46—No. 1 do. do. 37 to 42—No 2 do do 26 to 30—No 3 do do 18 to 20.

## BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, August 30, 1841.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 825 Beef Cattle, 1100 Stores, 5,100 Sheep, and 900 Swine. 275 Swine were reported last week. A large number of Cattle, Sheep and Swine unsold.

PRICES.—*Beef Cattle*—We continue last week's quotations, viz:—First quality, $5 50 a 5 75. Second quality, $4 75 a 5 25. Third quality $3 00 a 4 25.

*Stores.*—We noticed a small lot of Two year old's sold for $8, and a lot for $10 and 12. We quote Two year old, $8 a 14. Three year old, $12 a 19.

*Sheep.*—A large number of store sheep were at market, and many of the lambs were small and ordinary, prices low, and dull. We noticed lots of ordinary lambs sold for 50c, 80, $1 00 and $1 12. Better qualities, $1 25, $1 33, $1 62, $1 75, $2 00 and $2 12.

*Swine.*—Dull. Lots to peddle selected, 3 and 3 3 4 for sows and 4 and 4 1-4 for barrows. A lot Old hogs, part barrows, at 3, and a lot of barrows at 3 1-2. At retail, 4 and 5.

## ORIENTAL POPPY.

The best time for planting this magnificent Perennial, is the present time. For sale at 50 cents per root. Also, Pæony Whitleii, Humei, Rosea, Albicans, Tenuifolia. Hybrida, Tartarica, &c., from 50 cents to $1 00 per root.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK, & CO., No. 51 and 52 North Market Street. Sept. 1

## BULBOUS ROOTS.

The subscribers offers for sale a great variety of Pæonies, Lillys, Crown Imperials, and other Bulbous and fibrous rooted plants which are most successfully planted in August.

Also, Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissus, and Bulbous roots of every description. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Aug. 11.

## WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.

This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them; this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. Sept. 1

## APPLE PARERS.

Just received at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No 51 and 52 North Market Street, a good supply of *Stanley's Superior Apple Parers*, a very useful article. With one of these machines a bushel of apples may be pared in a very short time in the best possible manner, and with great saving of the apple, as the outsides may be taken off at any required thickness. The above is also for sale at N. P. H. WILLIS', No. 45 North Market Street, SCUDDER, CORDIS & CO., and HOSMER & TAPPAN, Milk Street.

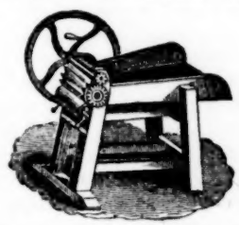
Sept. 1 6w JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

## SUN DIALS.

Just received a few of Sheldon & Moore's, Sun Dials, a very neat and useful article for the purpose of giving the time of day in the garden or field. Price 75 cents. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No 51 and 52 North Market St.

Sept 1.

## GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

## NOTICE TO HORTICULTURISTS.

### Whale Oil Soap.

The subscriber has constantly on hand, and in quantities to suit purchasers, this useful article which has lately proved itself so destructive to the great variety of insects which infest the Garden, Shrubs, Vines and Flowers.

THADDEUS PERKINS, 109 State street.

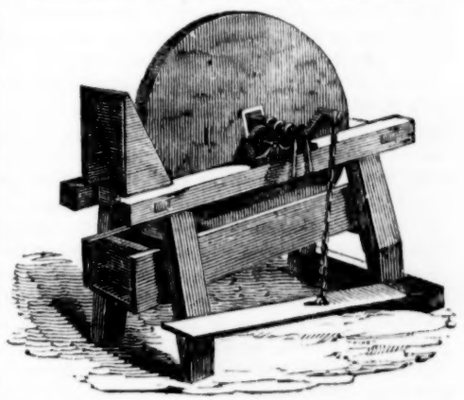
Boston Aug. 4th, 1841. 1m

## PATENT BRASS SYRINGE—WHALE OIL SOAP.

Willis's Patent Improved Brass Syringe for watering plants, grape vines, small trees, destroying the Rose Bug, &c. This Syringe may be used on all occasions when watering is necessary for using a solution prepared for the purpose, to prevent mildew on grape vines, and also to use the preparation of Soap for the destruction of the Rose Bug.

This Syringe may be had of JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, who has for sale the Whale Oil Soap, a sure preventative against the ravages of the Rose Bug and other insects. The Soap should be diluted by water, at the rate of fifteen gallons of water to two pounds of Soap, and applied by the Syringe. The Soap is in kegs containing 28 lbs., at one dollar per keg. July 14

## GRINDSTONES, ON FRICTION ROLLERS.



Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the present mode of hanging grindstones. The ease with which they move upon the rollers, renders them very easy to turn with the foot, by which the labor of one man is saved, and the person in the act of grinding, can govern the stone more to his mind by having the complete control of his work. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hun in the common way.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Boston. July 14

## AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, &c.

The Proprietors of the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store No. 51 and 52 North Market street, would inform their customers and the public generally that they have on hand the most extensive assortment of Agricultural and Horticultural Tools to be found in the United States. Part of which are the following:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron loughs | 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels. |
| 300 Common do. do. | 150 " Common do. |
| 200 Cultivators. | 100 " Spades. |
| 100 Greene's Straw Cutters. | 500 " Grass Scythes. |
| 50 Willis' do. do. | 300 " atent Snaiths. |
| 100 Common do. do. | 200 " Common do. |
| 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers. | 500 " Hay Rakes. |
| 50 Common do do. | 200 " Garden do. |
| 200 Hand Corn Mills. | 200 " Manure Forks. |
| 200 Grain Cradles. | 300 " Hay do. |
| 200 Willis' Seed Sowers. | 500 Pair Trace Chains. |
| 50 " Vegetable Cutters. | 100 " Truck do. |
| 50 Common do. do. | 100 Draft do. |
| 200 Ox Yokes. | 500 Tie up do. |
| 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones. | 50 doz. Halter do. |
| 3000 " Austin's Rifles. | 1000 yards Fence do. |
| | 25 Grind Stones on rollers. |

March 17.

## DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

Just received by Packet Coromanda,

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

## TYE UP CHAINS.

Just received by Packet Coromanda, 500 Chains for tyeing up Cattle.

These chains, introduced by E. H. DERBY, Esq. of Salem, and Col. JACQUES, for the purpose of securing cattle to the stall, are found to be the safest and most convenient mode of fastening cows and oxen to the stanchion.

For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

☞A correspondent of the Maine Farmer, in a communication touching upon several subjects, introduces the following, in which *we*, the "P. D.," feel a little concerned:

"DEAR DOCTOR—* * *—I have been quite interested by reading the numerous defences which have been set up for the skunk in the Farmer and other agricultural papers. I always thought him capable of defending himself, and have been inclined to believe that those who volunteer their quixotic displays in his behalf, will make themselves as ridiculous as the renowned Knight of La Mancha. Glory may be in that direction, but I am quite willing those should bind the *redolent* laurel upon their own proud brows. I have an affection for the toad, dating from my earliest childhood. I am no partaker in the general antipathy with which little harmless, not only harmless but useful snakes are regarded. And frogs, when made into pie, are good eating, (I speak from experience.) I trust they will not be permitted longer to "waste their sweetness" and live and die in our ponds and meadows to no purpose, other than that of making night melodious with their happy notes. But the *skunk!* pardon me, Doctor, my organ of benevolence has not yet expanded sufficiently to contain *him* in its recess;—indeed, should he, by hook or by crook, gain admittance there, I fear he would quickly expel the motley group which has found refuge there from popular prejudice and persecution. They would make summary abdication, and bide the world's brunt, farther off than his presence.—I occasionally come near his skunkship in my evening excursions, and am careful to give him a wide berth, and like Loxley the archer in Ivanhoe, make allowance for the wind, in case he should incline to greet me with a salute from his ivory-mounted ordnance. When he crosses my path, even though the "offence be *rank* and *smells* to heaven," I make no "point of honor" with him, for should I call him out, he would have the choice of weapons, as settled by the code of southern hot-spurs, and not being skilled in the use of a skunk gun, I *scent* in advance the issue of the contest. I have no disposition to "seek the bubble reputation in *that* cannon's mouth," and without the fear of being termed a craven, gladly show the "white feather."

SALATHIEL.

☞Being (we suppose) one of those who, in the sage opinion of "Salathiel," have rendered themselves ridiculous by their "quixotic displays" in behalf of the skunk, we wish to assure him that we are as ready now as ever to incur ridicule in the same cause—and that any vile insinuations against that creature's character, shall not go uncontradicted while we possess the ability to vindicate it.

The antipathy to the skunk manifested by "Salathiel," we unhesitatingly impute to his cowardice. We take him for one of those whose bravery, like that of Falstaff's soldiers, consists in their being afraid of nothing but—*danger!*—Uninitiated in the "ology" of the animal he calumniates, he invests him with terrors which even a tyro-*amateur* in *skunkology* could inform him had no other existence than in his own imagination.—Run away from a skunk! Why, if the citizen-soldiery of Maine embraces *many* such men as this "Salathiel," who would *retreat* from an enemy before it had shown any disposition to *attack*, then, we are thinking, she will have to depend upon some other than her own *chivalry*, to defend her territory from the encroachments of John Bull!

But "Salathiel," in telling us of his dislike and fear of the skunk, exhibits a *taste* for certain other individuals of the animate creation, which, if nothing else, entitles him to be ranked as a *rare avis in terra*. He acknowledges himself a frog-eater, and an admirer of snakes and bull toads!!—Good Gracious! why we should instinctively recoil from such a being, as from a monster from the nether world! Though we may (among others) have rendered ourself obnoxious to ridicule by our "quixotic displays" in defence of the skunk, we bless our stars that we are not, like him, obnoxious to the ridicule—the *stigma*, we will say—of being an admirer of the horrid-looking toad and the detestable snake!

In conclusion we would say to "Salathiel," that however bitter and deep-rooted may be his animosities towards the skunk, it were wiser for him to stifle them in his breast than to give them currency by his pen—for he is not aware how many quills are ready to leap into action in defence of injured innocence!—We "commend him to a careful husbandry of his resources!"—N. E. F.'s "P. D."

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*The Schoolmaster and his Scholar.*—A schoolmaster was one day hearing one of his scholars read: the boy, when he came to the word *honor*, pronounced it full: the master told him it should be pronounced without the *h*, as thus—onor. "Very well, sir," replied the lad, "I will remember for the future." "Ay," said the master, "always drop the *h*." The next morning, the master's tea, with a hot muffin, had been brought to the desk, but the duties of his avocation made him wait till it was cold; when, addressing the same boy, he told him to take it to the fire and heat it. The boy took it to the fire and *ate* it. Presently the master called for his muffin. "I ate it, as you bade me," said the boy. "Ate it, you rogue! I bade you take it to the fire and *heat* it." "But, sir," said the lad, "yesterday you told me always to drop the *h*."—*Anon.*

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*A Long Nose.* Napoleon used to say—"When I want any great head work done, I choose a man, provided his education has been suitable, who has a long nose. In my observation of men, I have almost invariably found a long nose and a long head to go together."

[This remark of the sagacious Emperor, is prodigiously tickling to *some* people's self-esteem—hence the pains *some* people take to "keep it before the people!" *Napoleon was a great man.*—"P. D."]

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*A Stinging Charge.*—An able judge was once obliged to deliver the following charge to the jury: "Gentlemen of the jury: in this case, the counsel on both sides are unintelligible; the witnesses on both sides are incredible; and the plaintiff and defendant are both such bad characters, that to me it is indifferent which way you give your verdict."

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A celebrated physician, boasting at dinner that he cured his own hams, one of his guests observed, "Doctor, I would sooner be your ham than your patient."

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The Genesee Farmer tells of an "improved breed" of mosquitoes out west, which have to be caged in the spring to prevent their pulling up corn!

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard or rocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

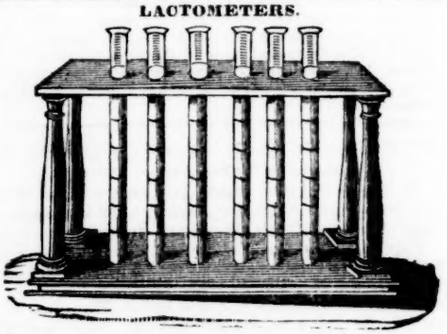
The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

**FENCE CHAINS.**

Just received from England, 10,000 feet Chains, suitable for Fences or other purposes. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

**LACTOMETERS.**



Just received at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52, North Market st., a few sets of Lactometers, for testing the quality of milk.

June 23 JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

**NEW TURNIP SEED.**

Just received and for sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street,

500 lbs. TURNIP SEED, of the growth of 1841.

July 14. JOS. BRECK & CO.



NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

The Editorial department of this paper having come into the hands of the subscriber, he is now authorized by the publishers to inform the public that the price of the paper is reduced. In future the terms will be $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days. ALLEN PUTNAM.

N. B.—Postmasters are required by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.